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## NEW BOOKS

- ANDREWS, A. B. *Per capita cost of courts. Revised addendum of January 6, 1922.* (Raleigh, N. C.: Author, 239 Fayetteville St. 1922. Pp. 16.)
- BARTON, W. E. and BROWNING, C. W. *Federal income tax laws; correlated and annotated, including the act of 1921.* (Washington: John Byrne & Co. 1922. Pp. 525. \$10.)
- BEMAN, L. T., compiler. *Selected articles on current problems in taxation.* (New York: H. W. Wilson Co. 1921. Pp. vii, 350. \$2.25.)
- BRAND, R. H. *War and national finance.* (New York: Longmans, Green. 1922. Pp. xii, 287. \$5.)
- DIETZ, F. C. *English government finance, 1485-1558.* Studies in the social sciences, vol. IX, no. 3. (Urbana, Ill.: Univ. of Illinois. 1922. Pp. 235. \$2.25.)
- FASSETT, C. M. *Handbook of municipal government.* (New York: Crowell. 1922. Pp. viii, 192. \$1.50.)
- FASTOUT, A. *Une politique financière.* (Paris: G. Crès. 1922. 4.50 fr.)
- GRILLI, C. *Il protezionismo dopo la guerra.* (Rome: Author, Viale della Regina 86. 1921. Pp. 1921.)
- HAWTREY, R. G. *The exchequer and control of expenditure.* (New York: Oxford Univ. Press. 1921. Pp. 72. \$1.)
- LEVER, E. A. *A primer of taxation: an introduction to public finance.* (London: King. 1922. Pp. 106. 2s. 6d.)

This little pamphlet is a simply written introduction to public finance, intended to enable the common British voter to understand the taxing system of his country, both national and local. There are also chapters on public expenditure, the budget and the public debt. There is nothing startling in the theories stated. The only serious error is one of which J. S. Mill was equally guilty, viz., the denial of any element of voluntariness in indirect taxes. Neither of these writers perceives the great difference between avoiding the payment of a tax by dispensing with the taxed article, if the tax is imposed on a dispensable commodity, and on the other hand merely saving an amount sufficient to pay the tax by dispensing with some luxury, if the tax is a direct one. Aside from this, the book is very well adapted to its purpose.

RUFUS S. TUCKER.

- LHÔTE, J. *La douane en France et à l'étranger.* (Poitiers: Lib. P. Oudin. 1922.)
- MAYERS, L. *The federal service: a study of the system of personnel administration of the United States government.* The Institute for Government Research studies in administration. (New York: Appleton. 1922. Pp. xvi, 607. \$5.)
- Deals largely with the personal force of the government, with chapters on "Selection of employees," "Classification and standardization of salaries," and "The maintenance of individual efficiency."
- MOEHLMAN, A. B., THOMAS, J. F. and ANDERSON, H. W. *An analysis of the 1922-1923 budget requests of the Board of Education of the City of Detroit.* The Detroit Educational Bulletin, no. 8, Feb., 1922. (Detroit, Mich.: Bd. of Education. 1922. Pp. 64.)

MONTGOMERY, R. H. *Income tax procedure—1922*. (New York: Ronald 1922. Pp. xxi, 1911. \$10.)

With the enactment of the new income tax law comes a new edition of Montgomery's handbook. As stated last year a new edition at least once every year is necessary on account of the multitude of new rulings. The 1922 edition, while retaining the many excellent features noted in the reviews of earlier editions published in the *AMERICAN ECONOMIC REVIEW*, has had to be in large part rewritten not only on account of the new statute but to give consideration to the important court rulings and Treasury decisions.

The Revenue act of 1921 was analyzed by Professor Roy G. Blakey in the *AMERICAN ECONOMIC REVIEW* for March 1922, so it is unnecessary to present in this connection any outline of the changes made by the new law.

Montgomery expresses bitter disappointment over the new law. "It is long and complicated"; it denies "discretion to Commissioner of Internal Revenue"; "it omits reference to" certain "items of income" and "fails to deal with" certain "items of deductions"; "it neglects to specify how the Commissioner shall settle the omitted items, and then comes chaos." "The truth of the matter is that Congress did not have the courage to face the issue and exact an understandable law." The author is in accord with many others that we ought to have and probably will have another new law soon.

Congress seems to be moving, slowly indeed, to a recognition of the fact that all gains and profits are not income. The establishment by the new law of a new category of gains (Montgomery mistakenly calls them "income") known as "capital gains" may be hailed as the first step toward a definition of income more nearly in accord with the common man's ideas. Montgomery still runs his hobby that earned income is discriminated against and that investment income should be still more heavily taxed than it now is. It seems a little strange that he cannot see that income from real estate has paid in property taxes the equivalent of an income tax of from 20 to 30 per cent before the federal income tax descends upon it; that income from corporations by reason of the property and other state and local taxes has likewise paid a tax equal to an income tax of 20 to 30 per cent, that furthermore the federal income tax on corporation profits is now 12½ per cent straight or above 14 per cent on dividends and that these burdens ranging from 20 per cent to 44 per cent are in addition to, in many if not all cases, the 4 per cent or 8 per cent normal tax and surtaxes which alone the earners are required to pay. Montgomery makes the naive suggestion that "where the real estate tax is already inordinately taxed the remedy should be sought in a reform of the state as well as the local tax system." It may well be pointed out that to provide any material relief the reduction in the property tax would have to be drastic indeed.

One great merit of Montgomery's treatise is that he never forgets that there are five income tax laws all more or less in force. He not only informs his readers of the "former procedure" in separate paragraphs, but in the general discussion points out the changes in as simple a manner as is possible in dealing with so intricate a subject.

CARL C. PLEHN.

*University of California.*

SELIGMAN, E. R. A. *Essays in taxation*. Ninth edition completely revised and enlarged. (New York: Macmillan. 1921. Pp. 806.)

In the new edition of the *Essays in Taxation*, we find some of the earlier essays brought down to date and five new chapters added. The new chapters consist of addresses and papers published since 1913, the date of the last previous edition.

One of the five is on The Next Step in Tax Reform and discusses the classification of property and the income tax. This was the presidential address at the ninth annual conference of the National Tax Association (San Francisco, 1915). Another is on The Relations of Federal, State and Local Revenues, a combination of two papers, one read before the Second Pan-American Congress, 1915, and another before the New York State Tax Association, 1917. Another is on The War Revenue Acts and consists of an article published in the *Political Science Quarterly* in 1918. This one has been amplified by notes and appendices. Another is on Loans versus Taxes in War Finance, reprinted from the volume on *Financing the War* in the *Annals of the American Academy of Politics and Social Science*, 1918. The remaining one is on The Cost of the War and How it Was Met, from the *AMERICAN ECONOMIC REVIEW*, 1919.

It is well worth while to have these essays, together with those previously assembled, all in one volume.

CARL C. PLEHN.

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\_\_\_\_\_. *The shifting and incidence of taxation*. Fourth edition revised. (New York: Columbia Univ. Press. 1921. Pp. xii, 431.)

The changes in this edition of the volume on *Shifting and Incidence* are comparatively slight. There are a dozen or so additions to the discussion of the older literature, and some changes in the presentation of the theory of capitalization and of the incidence of taxes on profits and surplus. The changes as to capitalization consist of footnote references to more recent discussions, mostly to those which arose from the new British land taxes, and of an additional illustration of the effect of unequal taxes on like capital items. The changes with reference to the tax on profits are two new footnotes. Professor Seligman still considers that the "real problem" \* \* \* "is to ascertain the conditions according to which a tax is shifted forward, backward, or not at all," and stops when he has ascertained "on whom the tax ultimately falls" without going on to consider the "effects produced by the pressure of taxation on the various classes or individuals."

CARL C. PLEHN.

SHAH, K. T. *Sixty years of Indian finance*. (London: King. 1922. 21s.)

TAUSSIG, F. W. *Selected readings in international trade and tariff problems*. (Boston: Ginn. 1921. Pp. x, 566.)

This most recent volume of readings for the use of students of economics, compiled by Professor Taussig for the study of international trade and tariff problems, invites comparison with the editor's earlier collection of materials published thirty years ago. The present volume is wider in scope than the *State Papers Relating to the Tariff*. In part III, about 100 pages, are compressed the essentials of the documents and speeches found in the earlier volume with some additional material, chiefly speeches, relating to the American tariff controversy. It is significant that nothing in the utterances of public men on this subject

since the first administration of Governor Cleveland seems to have been found of sufficient importance to warrant their inclusion.

Part I, dealing mainly with the theory of international trade, contains selections from Ricardo, J. S. Mill, Cairnes, and Taussig, and also the excellent study of the balance of trade of the United States since 1821 by Professors Bullock, Williams, and Tucker, and Professor Taussig's *Quarterly Journal* article on the probable future of our trade.

While the reprinting of these selected readings will prove a great convenience for purposes of class instruction, it is the group of readings in part III that will be of most service to American students, to whom they have hitherto for the most part been inaccessible. They deal with the practical tariff problems of European states. Reference is made particularly to Professor Alfred Marshall's *Memorandum on the Fiscal Policy of International Trade* (1903) and M. Méline's report of the French tariff commission of 1892; but above all, to the group of translations from the writings of Wagner, Bretano, and Richard Schüller on the grave problems with which the German people were confronted about the beginning of the century, when they thought they still had a choice between the abandonment of the policy of self-sufficiency and the acceptance of the perils of an industrial state. With this phase of commercial and industrial statesmanship, our publicists fortunately have never had, seriously, to concern themselves; Hamilton's brush with the agrarians of his day was purely academic. A perusal of these selections will give American students a keener appreciation of the gravity of European tariff and trade problems and doubtless lead to the conclusion that our own tariff problems have, by comparison, been rather petty.

GEORGE O. VIRTUE.

*Budget 1922-1924, Commonwealth of Virginia.* (Richmond, Va.: Governor's Office. 1922. Pp. 404.)

*Digest of constitutional provisions regarding the limitations of municipal indebtedness.* (Madison, Wis.: Legislative Reference Library. 1921.)

*Federal income tax; summary of the law applicable to individuals including income tax exemptions of Liberty bonds.* (New York: Columbia Trust Co. 1921.)

*Federal income taxes for 1921.* (New York: Standard Statistics Co., Inc. 1921. Pp. 64.)

*Federal taxes for 1921, the Revenue law of 1921, public no. 98.* (New York: Federal Trade Information Service, 175 Fifth Ave. Pp. v, 127. 75c.)

*Handy-digest, federal income tax.* 1922 edition. (Baltimore, Md.: A. Brown & Sons. 1921. Pp. 63.)

*Internal revenue regulations 48 (revised Dec. 1921) relating to the excise taxes on works of art and jewelry, under sections 902 and 905 of the Revenue act of 1921.* (Washington: Gov. Prtg. Office, Supt. Docs. 1922. 5c.)

*Practical questions and answers on the federal tax laws (individuals, partnerships and corporations), Revenue act of 1921.* (New York: Irving National Bank. 1922. Pp. 144.)

*Revenue act of 1921. Complete text, reference notes, tables and index.* (New York: National Bank of Commerce. 1922. Pp. 288.)

## Population and Migration

### NEW BOOKS

AUBERTIN, F. *La natalité*. (Paris: G. Crès. 1922. 9 fr.)

HOURLWICH, I. A. *Immigration and labor: the economic aspects of European immigration to the United States*. (New York: Huebsch. 1922. Pp. xxxii, 574.)

JOHNSON, J. E., compiler. *Selected articles on the negro problem*. (New York: H. W. Wilson Co. 1921. Pp. xxxv, 370. \$2.25.)

MOSSELL, S. T. *The standard of living among one hundred negro migrant families in Philadelphia*. (Philadelphia: Am. Academy of Social and Political Science. 1921. Pp. 50.)

A thesis presented to the faculty of the Graduate School of the University of Pennsylvania in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. Reprinted from *The Annals*, vol. XCVIII, Nov., 1921.

SAVORGNIAN, F. *Demografia di guerra e altri saggi*. (Bologna: Nicola Zanichelli. 1921. Pp. 219. 12 l.)

*Population and its distribution; compiled from the figures of 1920 United States census; including distribution of retail and wholesale dealers*. Third edition. (New York: J. Walter Thompson Co., 244 Madison Ave. 1921. Pp. x, 335. \$5.)

## Social Problems and Reforms

*What is Social Case Work? An Introductory Description*. By MARY E. RICHMOND. (New York: Russell Sage Foundation. 1922. Pp. 268. \$1.00.)

A book which analyzes social case work and reveals more of the method is always welcome. In spite of the parts that are confusing and obscure this book has in it so much that is fine, useful, and constructive that it represents a real contribution to social work literature. The earlier chapters present six different types of problems and are valuable both for teaching purposes and for the wholesome philosophy which they present. The main theme, however, is the meaning of social case work. After laboring somewhat heavily on the word personality the author concludes that "social case work consists of those processes which develop personality through adjustments consciously effected, individual by individual, between men and their social environment." The development of personality is made the essential characteristic of case work. The reader is greatly astonished to discover on a later page that "social case work includes those social and useful adjustments which are made with and for individuals, whether or not they lead directly to the development of personality." In following the thought of the book the reader must realize that much water has flowed by in recent years but this discussion makes one wish